Story and Art:

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Translation and Edit:

amplified

tumblr | aijiishibashi

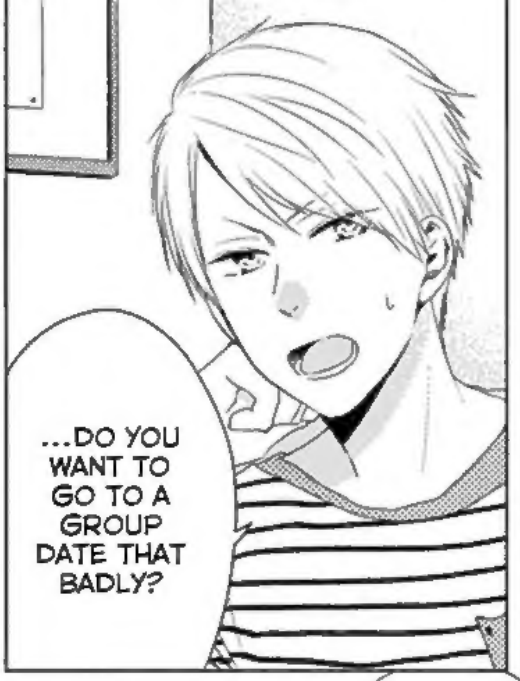
OTONARI COMPLEX

Best friend or more, friendzone. Childhood friend Complex!

SFX: CLAP
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.
PLEASE COME WITH ME TO THE GROUP DATE!!!
I'm Begging you!!!
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING?
WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN A GIRL TAKE A GUY TO A GROUP DATE?
03 LET'S GO ON A GROUP DATE

THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING MAKOTO-CHAN, NOT MAKOTO, TO COME WITH ME.
Please
AGAIN, WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING?!
(second time)

All Girls' School-Bred
Kuji-san, if it isn't too much, please eat this ~<3
spacing out
She's always wonderful...
sigh...
Akira-senpai, please do your best in your club activities today!
Kyaa!
THAT'S NOT IT...
I'M SUDDENLY GOING TO A GROUP DATE EVEN THOUGH I'VE NEVER DATED ANYONE BEFORE. JUST IMAGINING IT GIVES ME A STOMACHACHE.
Ah...
I'm used to being surrounded by girls, though.


...DO YOU WANT TO GO TO A GROUP DATE THAT BADLY?

YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST REFUSED THEN.
What a pain.
stab
stab
stab
stab
TO THINK THAT I'LL BE THROWN INTO AN UNFAMILIAR TERRITORY LIKE THAT...
ALSO, IF SOMEONE LIKE ME WHO LOOKS LIKE A GUY COMES THERE, THE OTHERS WILL BE PERPLEXED.

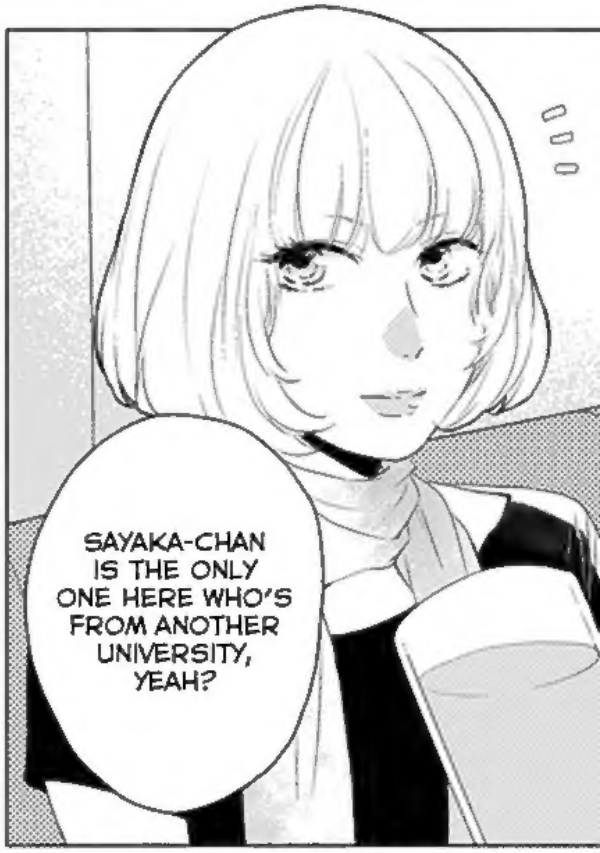
...SO YOU'RE GOING TO THE GROUP DATE NOT BECAUSE YOU WANT A BOYFRIEND?
.....
IF I CROSS-DRESS AND GO WITH YOU, THEN YOUR STOMACH PROBLEM WILL BE SOLVED?
GO WITH ME AND COVER FOR ME, IF POSSIBLE.
Agh
SERIOUSLY, YOU...

What? You're not coming? Why?
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE I'M DOING MY UTMOST TO AVOID ENRAGING AYAKA...
OH...
SFX: RUMBLE

...
...ASK SIS TO DO MY MAKEUP.
!!!
YAY!! I'LL TREAT YOU ANY CAFETERIA MEAL SET YOU LIKE!!
WHAT? THE CAFE-TERIA?
AND SO!
CHEERS~!
かんぱーいっ
cheers
!!!!
!!!!
かんぱーい
cheers

I'M IN THE SAME FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLASS WITH THIS GUY,
THE REST ARE MY P.E. CLASS-MATES.
CHATTER
CHATTER
OH, SO WE'RE ALL FROM THE SAME UNIVERSITY?
UH-HUH

Yup. I'm Akira's neighbor and childhood friend ♥
Akira asked me to come, so...
OH
NOD
NOD


SAYAKA-CHAN IS THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO'S FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSITY, YEAH?

THEY LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE! SHE'S A CARBON COPY!
OH, I SEE~DO THEY LOOK ALIKE?
I see him almost every day but I didn't know he had a younger sister.
HER TWIN BROTHER IS ALSO FROM OUR UNIVERSITY.
IT'S MY FIRST TIME MEETING SAYAKA-CHAN, TOO.

Hm?
OLDER SISTER SAYAKA
SMILE
SMILE
IT'S NOT JUST THEIR FACES. THEIR DEMEANORS AND EXPRESSIONS ARE ALSO SIMILAR!
Twins are amazing~
THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S REALLY HIM...
We borrowed Sis' name.

Oh..
Oh
Oh
Oh, I'm fine, thank you~♥
IF YOU WANT SOMETHING, I CAN GET IT FOR YOU.
IT MIGHT BE HARD FOR YOU TO REACH THE FOOD FROM YOUR SEAT.

SAYAKA-CHAN, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DRINK NEXT? THE SAME ONE?

OH, OKAY~ JUST TELL US IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT.
Okaaay♥
Ooh!

smile...
sparkle
Thank you...
But I don't have a big appetite, so...
sparkle
sparkle

THAT'S MY MOTTO !!!
You're so cool
BECOME A PERFECTLY NICE GIRL WHEN YOU CROSS-DRESS!!!
A gaze of respect
I HAD A HUNCH, BUT HE REALLY IS POPULAR..!
They're treating him like a princess..!!
I SAID HEY! AKIRA! HEY!

NO, WELL, I'M NERVOUS..!
GRIND
Ow, ow, ow, ow, ow...!
WHY ARE YOU STARING AT SAYAKA-CHAN?!

NO, THAT'S NOT...
Ahaha...
EVEN SO, I'M SO ENVIOUS TO SEE A PAIR OF HANDSOME AND BEAUTIFUL CHILDHOOD FRIENDS~

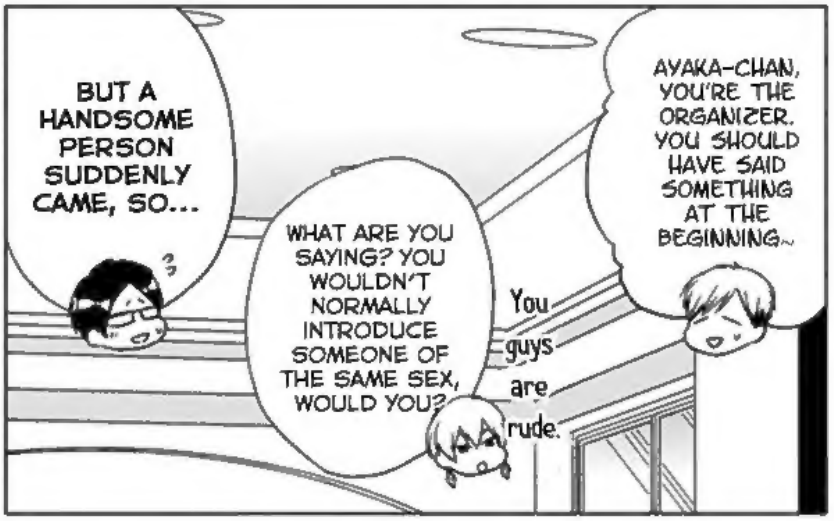
I THOUGHT THIS IS BORING FOR YOU.
OH, SO YOU WERE JUST NERVOUS.
Ahahaha

AT FIRST I THOUGHT SAYAKA-CHAN CAME HERE WITH HER BOYFRIEND.
You seemed like a couple.
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE A CHILDHOOD FRIEND OF THE OPPOSITE SEX?
ANY ROMANTIC FEELINGS?
HM?
I MEAN, CHILDHOOD FRIENDS TYPICALLY DATE IN MANGAS AND LIGHT NOVELS.
H-HEY. WAIT A SEC.
LOOK, AKIRA IS...
TIGHTEN
ギュッ
I BET YOU DON'T WANT TO FIND A GIRLFRIEND
WHEN YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND IS THIS CUTE, HUH, AKIRA-KUN?
UH
NO
WE'RE NOT DATING ...
THE JAPANESE HONORIFIC -KUN IS TYPICALLY USED FOR GUYS.

HEY
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING? WHAT'S YOUR SURNAME?
...? IT'S KUJI.
YES.
YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO BE FROM TOUSEN GIRLS' ACADEMY, DO YOU?
I KNEW IT! I'M SURE I'VE SEEN YOU SOMEWHERE BEFORE.
WHAT? IS AKIRA-KUN FAMOUS?
Her spikes are awesome!!!
They go, "WHAM"!
Wow~
SHE'S THE CAPTAIN OF A WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM THAT REGULARLY MAKES IT TO THE TOP 4 IN THE PREFECTURE.
WOW, THAT'S AMAZING!
HUH?
WAIT A SEC.
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL?
ぎゅっ
HUG
AKIRA IS A GIRL!

AHAHA. I GET THAT A LOT.
I'm used to it.
I SERIOULY DIDN'T KNOW. I WAS SO SURE YOU WERE A GUY...
Oh, crap.
WHAT?!! FOR REAL?! I'M SORRY!

IT'S AMAZING THAT YOU NOTICED, SEO!


BUT A HANDSOME PERSON SUDDENLY CAME, SO...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU WOULDN'T NORMALLY INTRODUCE SOMEONE OF THE SAME SEX, WOULD YOU?
You guys are rude.
AYAKA-CHAN, YOU'RE THE ORGANIZER. YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING AT THE BEGINNING~

HE'S RIGHT! WELL, I WON'T DENY THAT SHE'S HANDSOME, THOUGH.
YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE AN EYE FOR PEOPLE.

NO, NO, NO. SHE IS BOYISH, BUT SHE'S A GIRL NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT HER.

THAT'S A POWERHOUSE SCHOOL!
!!!
I WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF OUR VOLLEYBALL TEAM. I'M FROM TACHIBANA SECOND HIGH SCHOOL.
Ahaha
WELL, EVEN IF I SAY THAT,
I WAS ONLY ABLE TO TELL BECAUSE I OFTEN WATCH WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL MATCHES.
Hey
ONLY SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS CAN FOLLOW YOUR CONVERSATION~
Oops
RIGHT. LAST YEAR'S FINAL LEAGUE WAS ON A WHOLE NEW LEVEL...!
I watched the match...!
EVEN IF YOU SAY WE'RE A POWERHOUSE, WE COULD ONLY MAKE IT IN THE TOP 16 DURING OUR TIME.
THE SEMIFINALS AND FINALS ARE LIKE ANOTHER WORLD FOR US.
THIS IS JUST PERFECT! LET'S SWITCH SEATS!
I AGREE!

SMILE
SMILE
And then...
WOW, SO YOU WERE A LIBERO, SEO-KUN!
TACHIBANA SECOND IS KNOWN FOR ITS INDOMITABLE DEFENSE. YOU'RE REALLY AMAZING FOR PLAYING AS A LIBERO IN A TEAM LIKE THAT!
Oh~
REALLY?
BUT I GUESS I'M MORE IN AWE OF SPIKERS~
YOU'RE EXCEPTIONAL YOURSELF, AKIRA-CHAN. YOU WERE CONSIDERED A PROMISING PLAYER.
AHAHA, THAT'S NOT TRUE~
IT'S ALL THANKS TO OUR EXCELLENT SETTER!
.....
DO YOU WANT A REFILL?
YOUR GLASSES ARE ALMOST EMPTY.

...SO IN THE END, WE HAD TO PLAY A FULL SET.
UH-HUH.
OH, THEN I'LL HAVE THE SAME DRINK. THANK YOU.
This one.
POINT
OH, I'M GOOD~
AH, I'LL ORDER TOO~
ME TOO! CAN I ASK YOU, TOO?
WE SHOULD ORDER SOMETHING TO EAT, TOO~
SAYAKA-CHAN, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO EAT?
THEY SERVE DESSERTS HERE~

WE'RE GOING TO WATCH THE PREFECTURAL QUALIFIERS~
YOU KNOW HOW I LOVE WATCHING DIFFERENT KINDS OF SPORTS TOO, RIGHT?
WE HAD A REALLY GOOD TIME CHATTING~
OH
SEO-KUN SAID HE WATCHED THE VOLLEYBALL SPRING TOURNAMENT LAST YEAR.
AND HE WATCHES OTHER SPORTS AS WELL, NOT JUST VOLLEYBALL.
RETURN
OPTIONS
SEO AYUMU
PHONE
080-XXXX-XXXX
FaceTime
EMAIL ADDRESS
I THOUGHT GROUP DATES ARE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME.
BUT IT WASN'T MUCH DIFFERENT FROM A REGULAR DRINKING PARTY.

Are you tired?
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?
I DIDN'TGET TO TALK MUCH WITH THE OTHER GUYS, THOUGH...
MAKOTO?
Maybe I should go watch sports, too!
BRISK
BRISK
Not really.
It's nothing.
SHUT UP!
I don't really get it, though.
BUT YOU'RE ONLY INTERESTED IN PRO WRESTLING.
...?